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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT Status of C. Müller Rubber
Factory, Berlin-Weissensee

CD NO.

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25X1A

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1. Next Review Date: 2008
 The Müller & Co firm at 23-29 Belfortstrasse, BERLIN-WEISSENSEE,
 did not suffer much war damage. At the end of the war it had
 well equipped laboratories and research records worked out in
 detail as well as trained expert personnel.

2. In September 1945 the Soviets began dismantling the plant but
 stopped unexpectedly three months later. The entire plant
 was taken over by the Soviets as a research and instruction
 plant for Soviet specialists.

3. Personnel:

a. Management: Soviet Major LATSIVETSOV about 50 years old,
 addressed in the plant as "Doctor". (phonetic spelling)

b. Administration: Soviet personnel only) 20 employees

c. Translation Section: Soviet personnel only)

(12 employees have been working on the written plant records
 for two years).

d. Laboratory and pilot section: 18 German experts and at
 present about 60 Soviet civilians most of whom were only detached
 for instruction for a limited time.

e. Production and workshop: 140 Germans (including German
 section chiefs and foremen).

f. Supervision only by Soviet civilians.

g. Payment and "social care": Allocations of food and ciga-
 rettes for Germans were said to be satisfactory.

4. Instruction activities:

a. Soviet engineer BAKASOV, deputy manager of the plant, was
 the chief instructor.

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b. The Soviets intend to train the highest possible number of Soviet specialists of the Soviet rubber industry in the laboratory and the pilot section of the MUELLER & Co firm.

c. The first course of instruction which lasted for almost one year with 100 students attending, was completed in late 1947. The trainees were escorted on their way back to MOSCOW by engineer BARASOV. In September 1948 engineer BARASOV returned to MOSCOW with 40 "rubber-students" who had been detached for seven months. This unit was expected to return in March 1949.

5. Research work:

a. The firm was trying to improve the known "acetylene procedure". Lime, coal and raw rubber were used as raw materials. The attached samples, numbered I through IV are:

I. Raw rubber, a sample taken from 15 tons of raw rubber which arrived, via Yugoslavia, in September 1948, according to the packing material.

II and III represent finished products manufactured by the MUELLER firm. Properties: Heating time 80 minutes at about 130°C under 4,5 atm ^{osmotic}. It was tried to reduce the heating time to from 40 to 60 minutes.

IV. Another finished product of MUELLER's. Allegedly 800 - 1000 slabs, 1 square meter each, of this material are shipped to a MOSCOW Gento-technical institute. The ingredients of the synthetic rubber could not be learned.

6. Production experiments in the SCHKOPAU rubber plant

The results of the research work performed by MUELLER & Co serve as the basis for large scale production experiments of the SCHKOPAU rubber plant. The results are protocolled and forwarded to the Soviet rubber plants in the Soviet Union.

1 Annex: 1 envelope with 4 rubber samples, forwarded to Army